

Preface

The Second International Workshop on Photonic and Electronic Materials was held in San Sebastian, Spain, 14–16 June 2004 and sponsored by Donostia International Physics Center. The Symposium was organized by Professor Joaquín Fernández and Professor Rolindes Balda, from the Basque Country University, and Professor Paras N. Prasad, from Buffalo University. The first workshop had been held in San Sebastian in 2001.

The Symposium provided a unique forum where scientists from Canada, France, Greece, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, and the United States gathered together to discuss recent progress in the field of photonic and electronic materials.

The workshop has covered research activities linked with the interaction between light and matter which will have important applications in fields such as telecommunications, information technology, medical diagnostics and treatment, environment control, etc.

Four plenary talks, 24 invited talks, and 14 posters were presented during the Symposium and some of them contribute to this special issue of Optical Materials. The purpose of this workshop was to gather researchers from crossed fields and horizons (universities, laboratories, and industries), to provide a much needed forum for the critical assessment and evaluation of recent developments in photonic materials (inorganic, organic, polymeric, biological, etc.) and molecular devices.

On behalf of the organizing committee, we wish to thank the President of the Donostia International Physics Center (DIPC), Professor Pedro Miguel Echenique, for housing this workshop and giving us the opportunity to meet and talk about fascinating topics.

We also express our acknowledgements to reviewers and to Elsevier for accepting the publication of these articles.

Joaquín Fernández
Rolindes Balda
Departamento de Física Aplicada I
Universidad del País Vasco, Bilbao, Spain
Unidad Física de Materiales CSIC-UPV/EHU
and Donostia International Physics Center
San Sebastián, Spain